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OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHWL #0225 0820511  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 230511Z MAR 06  
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2560  
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE 4347  
RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE 0417

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 000225

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR ISN/VC/NRRC MAHAFFEY AND EAP/ANP RICCI

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [KNNP](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#)  
SUBJECT: NZ CANNOT SEND OFFICIAL TO ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM  
NONPROLIFERATION SEMINAR IN SINGAPORE

REF: A. RICCI-HADDA 3/22 E-MAILS (NOTAL)

[1](#)B. SECSTATE 40458

[1](#)1. (SBU) On March 23, Pol-Econ Counselor received a call from Caroline McDonald, Director of the Disarmament Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. McDonald said that regretfully, after much consideration she had decided that no one from MFAT would be able to attend the Singapore ARF non-proliferation seminar. New Zealand's High Commission staff in Singapore will attend some of the sessions, but will not be able to make the presentation requested.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Comment: The Disarmament Division is really strapped at the moment, even by tiny MFAT's standards. The Deputy Director was recently reassigned and has not yet been replaced. Another officer will transfer out of the now four-person office next month; her replacement has not yet been named. End Comment.  
McCormick